

Message Text

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43

ORIGIN ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DODE-00 PM-03 OMB-01 TRSE-00 AID-05

IGA-01 EB-07 COME-00 MC-02 ACDA-05 /035 R

DRAFTED BY ARA/CEN-CR:JGSULLIVAN:PW

APPROVED BY ARA/CEN:DLAZAR

DOD/ISA:PDENGLE

PM/SAS:GSWEANEY

ARA/PLC:SQUIGG

----- 032117

P 131448Z MAR 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 056259

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, CS

SUBJECT: FMS CASH SALE REQUEST

REFERENCE: A) STATE 35184; B) SAN JOSE 752

1. WITH REFERENCE TO CHEMICAL AGENTS--ITEMS 7-10 IN REF B), MILITARY ASSISTANCE AND SALES MANUAL PROVIDES THAT RIOT CONTROL AGENTS WILL NOT NORMALLY BE PROVIDED BY MAP OR FMS. EMBASSY OF COSTA RICA COUNSELOR SOTELA DID CALL DOD/ISA, AND WAS ADVISED THAT CHEMICAL AGENTS WOULD HAVE TO BE PURCHASED BY COMMERCIAL SALES.

2. THERE HAVE BEEN RECENT SALES OF FRAGMENTATION GRENADES TO SEVERAL LA COUNTRIES IN RECENT YEARS, ALTHOUGH APPARENTLY NOT TO NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES IN PAST TWO YEARS. SHOULD ANOTHER COUNTRY IN THE REGION REQUEST FRAGMENTATION GRENADES UNDER FMS IN THE FUTURE, WE WOULD NOT BE PREPARED TO DENY UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES, SINCE FRAGMENTATION GRENADE CAN BE A LEGITIMATE PART OF MILITARY ARSENAL.

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CONSEQUENTLY, WE SUGGEST THAT YOU CONSULT FURTHER WITH GOCR

TO ASSURE THAT GRENADES ARE FOR MILITARY, RATHER THAN
POLICE, PURPOSES AND THAT STORAGE IS BOTH SECURE AND CON-
SISTENT WITH THESE PURPOSES. INGERSOLL

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